

REMARKS

The claims have been amended as needed so as to take care of the formal matters pointed out by the Examiner.

The indication of allowability of all the claims, apart from formal matters, is noted with thanks.

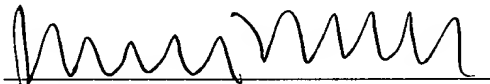
Accordingly, the formal matters having thus been taken care of, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (amended) A composition according to claim 4, wherein the composition capable of inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis is derived from a plant or plant part selected from the group consisting of *Alisma orientale*, *Typha* spp., *Salvia miltiorhiza*, *Polygonum multiflorum*, *Curcuma* spp., *Ligusticum* spp., *Polygonatum* spp., *Polygonum cuspidatum*; *Corydalis* spp; *Chrysanthemum morifolium*; *Artemisia capillaris*; *Crataegus pinnatifida*, *Eleutherococcus senticosus*, *Astragalus membranaceus* and subspecies [and] or varieties thereof.

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (amended) A composition according to claim 9, comprising a phytosterol selected from the group consisting of sitosterol, stigmasterol, ergosterol, campesterol, avenasterol, brassicasterol, desmosterol, chalinosterol, poriferasterol, clionasterol sitostanol, stigmastanol and campestanol[, and in particular comprises a sitosterol].

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (amended) A composition according to claim 12, wherein the composition capable of increasing cholesterol metabolism is derived from a plant or plant part selected from

the group consisting of *Polygonum multiflorum*, *Polygonum cuspidatum*, *Curcuma* spp., *Ligusticum* spp., *Polygonatum* spp., *Corydalis* spp., *Chrysanthemum morifolium*, *Artemisia capillaris* and *Acanthopanax senticosus*.

Claim 16 has been amended as follows:

16. (amended) A composition according to claim 15, wherein the component for the prevention and/or treatment of vascular disorders is selected from the group consisting of polyunsaturated fatty acids, antioxidants, phospholipids, folic acid, vitamin B12, vitamin B6, magnesium, coenzyme Q10 and zinc.